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and no reproductions can do justice to such a masterpiece. As Wagner's music should be heard and not described, so these superb religious paintings must be seen in order to be appreciated.

In these days of artistic cataclysm when the whirlwind of modernity threatens to destroy those Elysian fields of the imagination, wherein the spirit of man has found rest and tranquility throughout the ages, we turn with gratitude to the

sane teachings and beautiful work of one who believes in and follows the traditions of past art; who, while using every new note in the scale of color and eagerly grasping every recent discovery for the perfection of his technique, yet holds fast to the good old teachings that man can not improve on the works of God and that the profound study and comprehension of nature's laws are the foundation of all true art.

## MURAL PAINTINGS FOR A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL

THE art department of the New York City High Schools has made serious efforts through the last few years to interest a number of organizations in the decoration of city High Schools with mural paintings. The Municipal Art Society has lent its aid to the decoration of the Washington Irving High School and the Beaux Arts Society of Architects to the development of a competition for paintings for the foyer of the De Witt Clinton High School.

In addition to these the Mural Painters' Society has, through Mr. William Laurel Harris, its one-time president, assisted the general organization of the Eastern District High School, Brooklyn, in securing three large panels which have recently been installed on the entrance stairway of the school. These panels are the work of Mr. Frederick Lincoln Stoddard, of New York City, who is well-known for his mural paintings in the City Hall of St. Louis, his stained glass window in St. Michael's Church, in New York, a number of mural panels in the St. Louis High Schools, and a large lunette in the large Hebrew Technical School for Girls in New York City.

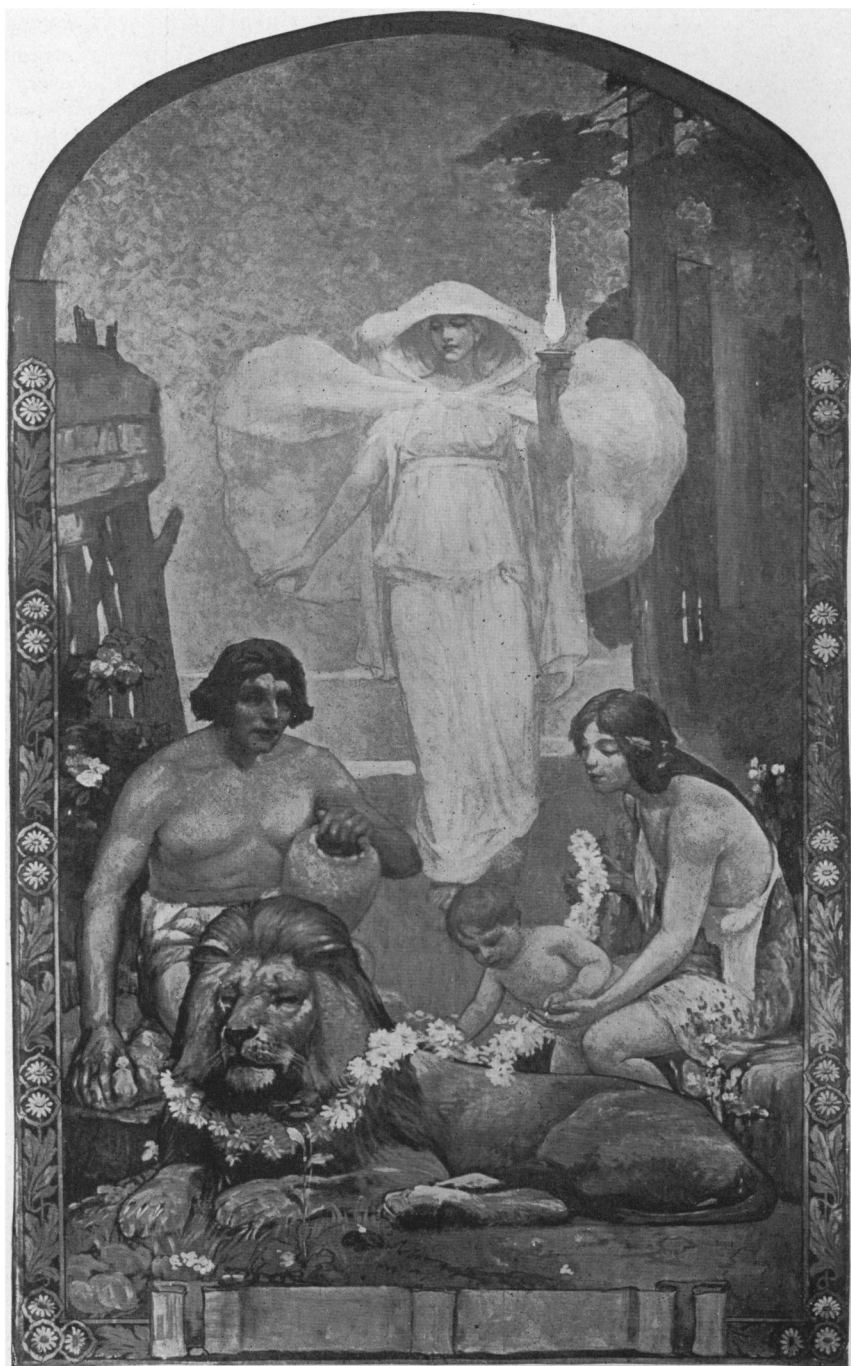
Mr. Stoddard was originally a designer of stained glass, but went abroad to study in Paris in 1891. There he took up mural work and returned to his native city in 1896. After executing a number of commissions in the Middle West, he came to New York City in 1904, having completed at that time some twenty mural decorations in different churches and public halls. He

was a silver medalist in the exposition of 1904, in St. Louis, and has since executed a number of commissions in the East, particularly "The Soul of a Rose," now owned by Mrs. Arthur James.

The three panels painted by Mr. Stoddard for the Eastern District High School, are each about eight feet wide and twelve feet in height. They represent the "Birth and Development of Education," the left panel showing the "Gift of Fire" to man, with Prometheus bound upon a rock in the background and man reaching forward toward enlightenment, which is symbolically represented by the flame, while the animal world is typified by a snarling tiger shrinking from the blaze.

The central panel, recently shown in New York City in the Exhibition of Civic Art arranged by the Municipal Art Society, shows the "Dawn of Civilization" with Truth holding aloft a torch, and in the foreground, man at work upon the first piece of pottery, while the family help to subdue Brute Force which is here symbolically represented by a recumbent lion wreathed in flower chains which a child is drawing round it.

The right-hand panel shows the "Birth of the Alphabet," the earliest student scratching with a broken spear the first letters upon a rock. Behind him warriors sneeringly look upon the first steps of learning, while in the foreground a serpent shrinks from the light of education which blazes before the writer.



DAWN OF CIVILIZATION

FREDERICK LINCOLN STODDARD

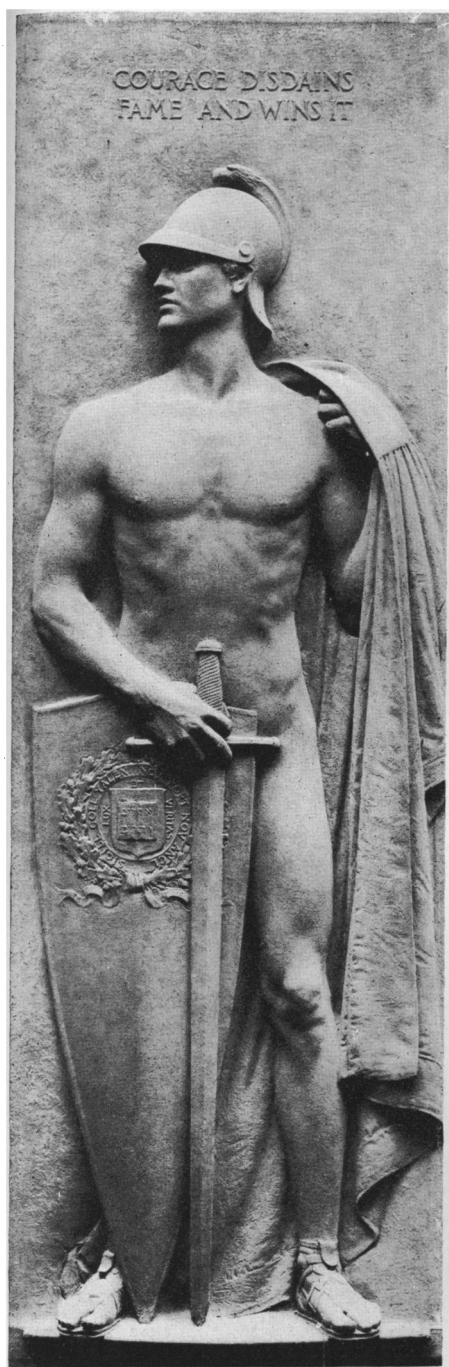
MURAL DECORATION, EASTERN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL, NEW YORK



PANELS BY HENRY HERING

MEMORIAL TO THE MEN OF YALE WHO FOUGHT IN THE CIVIL WAR

YALE UNIVERSITY



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